“Colors of the Well-Tempered Clavier”

Transcriptions for various instruments of the

Well-Tempered Clavier by Jan Leontsky.

By using a different sound (instrument) for each voice of Bach’s fugues, these transcriptions allow the auditor to follow their development and therefore to better understand the sometimes so complex contrapuntal structure of these Fugues of the Well-Tempered Clavier (*). This is almost impossible if these fugues are played on a single keyboard (harpsichord or piano), because of its unique sound envelop (**). Besides, the challenge was to “orchestrate” – always following the original score – all the preludes for several instruments too. For example, for a three-voices fugue, the prelude and the fugue are both transcribed for three instruments. The term “colors” refers to, first, the sound effect of these new “orchestrations” of the Well-Tempered Clavier, then, the use of different tonalities which also change the color of each musical piece.

Leontsky

(*) I humbly tried to do the same transcription work for the Art of the Fugue BWV 1080.

(**) On that crucial point, see my essay : “Le problème Gould” (in French) : https://www.amazon.fr/dp/B09NRDSMYS

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“Colors of the Well-Tempered Clavier” Book I

24 Preludes & Fugues

*NB : The Organ & Harpsichord parts are written for 2 manuals in order to use **different stops** for each manual.*

Prelude & Fugue no. 1 BWV 846 for Concert Flute, Oboe, Viola & French Horn in F.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09PRZ1R58

Prelude & Fugue no. 2 BWV 847 for Oboe, Viola & French Horn in F.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09PW8L6QV

Prelude & Fugue no. 3 BWV 848 for Concert Flute, Viola & Bassoon.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09PRZ1TXH

Prelude & Fugue no. 4 BWV 849 for Concert Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Cello & Bassoon.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09PW4TYCV

Prelude & Fugue no. 5 BWV 850 for Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Viola & Bassoon.

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/938367272330923868

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09Q8WM2GR

Prelude & Fugue no. 6 BWV 851 for Violin, Clarinet in Bb & Cello.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09PW8KD64

Prelude & Fugue no. 7 BWV 852 for Oboe, Clarinet in Bb & Organ (two manuals).

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QF8VRND

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Prelude & Fugue no. 8 BWV 853 for Oboe, Harp & Cello.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QJZGF2G

Prelude & Fugue no. 9 BWV 854 for Concert Flute, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 10 BWV 855 for Violin & Piano.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QFDJKR4

Prelude & Fugue no. 11 BWV 856 for Oboe, Viola & Cello.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QK95XYZ

Prelude & Fugue no. 12 BWV 857 for Concert Flute, Viola, French Horn in F & Bassoon.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QFJ5C8V

Prelude & Fugue no. 13 BWV 858 for Clarinet in Bb, Oboe & Cello.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QFDQY48

Prelude & Fugue no. 14 BWV 859 for Concert Flute, Oboe, Viola & French Horn in F.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QFM8HS9

Prelude & Fugue no. 15 BWV 860 for String Trio (Violin, Viola, Cello).

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QNTLWMS

Prelude & Fugue no. 16 BWV 861 for Concert Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Cello & Bassoon.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QP9NFV5

Prelude & Fugue no. 17 BWV 862 for Oboe, Violin & Piano.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 18 BWV 863 for Concert Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 19 BWV 864 for Concert Flute & Organ (two manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 20 BWV 865 for Oboe, Clarinet in Bb & Harpsichord (two manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 21 BWV 866 for String Quartet (Violin, Viola & Cello).

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QP696DQ

Prelude & Fugue no. 22 BWV 867 for Concert Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Viola & Cello.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 23 BWV 868 for Oboe, Concert Flute, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 24 BWV 869 for Concert Flute, Violin, Clarinet in Bb & Cello.

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https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09QNYKJTG

“Colors of the Well-Tempered Clavier” Book II

24 Preludes & Fugues

Prelude & Fugue no. 1 BWV 870 for Violin, Clarinet in Bb & Harpsichord.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 2 BWV 871 for Oboe, Violin & Harpsichord (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 3 BWV 872 for Clarinet in Bb & Organ (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 4 BWV 873 for String Trio (Violin, Viola & Cello).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 5 BWV 874 for Concert Flute, Oboe, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 6 BWV 875 for Violin & Harpsichord (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 7 BWV 876 for Concert Flute, Clarinet in Bb & Harpsichord or Organ (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 8 BWV 877 for Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Cello & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 9 BWV 878 for Oboe, Violin & Organ or Harpsichord (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 10 BWV 879 for Flugelhorn in Bb, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 11 BWV 880 for Concert Flute, Violin & Organ or Harpsichord (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 12 BWV 881 for Concert Flute, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 13 BWV 882 for Oboe, Clarinet in Bb & Cello.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 14 BWV 883 for Oboe, Viola & Bass Clarinet in Bb or Cello

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Prelude & Fugue no. 15 BWV 884 for Violin & Harpsichord or Organ (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 16 BWV 885 for Concert Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 17 BWV 886 for Violin, English Horn in F, French Horn in F & Cello.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 18 BWV 887 for Oboe & Organ or Harpsichord (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 19 BWV 888 for Violin, French Horn in F & Cello.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 20 BWV 889 for Violin, Viola & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 21 BWV 890 for Violin & Harpsichord or Organ (2 manuals).

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Prelude & Fugue no. 22 BWV 891 for Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Viola & French Horn in F.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 23 BWV 892 for Clarinet in Bb, Viola, Cello & Bassoon.

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Prelude & Fugue no. 24 BWV 893 for Violin & Harpsichord or Organ (2 manuals).

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